

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBAN 00025 131212Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /099 W
-----005882 131232Z /10

R 131047Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL DURBAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2795
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS DURBAN 0025

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, SF
SUBJ: PRINTER WHO SENT "ACID T-SHIRTS" TO DONALD WOODS CHARGED

REF: 77 MASERU 2134

1. ROBIN HOLMES, A PIETERMARITZBURG T-SHIRT PRINTER WHO SENT SHIRTS WITH STEVE BIKO'S PICUTE TO DONALD WOODS WHICH CAUSED ACID BURNS TO WOODS' DAUGHTER, HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH DISTRIBUTING AND SELLING BANNED ARTICLES. HOLMES CLAIMS HE SENT SHIRTS TO WOODS AS MEMORIAL AFTER BIKO'S DEATH. HOWEVER, WHEN WOODS' DAUGHTER PUT ONE ON, IT CAUSED MINOR ACID BURNS TO HER FACE AND CHEST. WHILE POLICE BEGAN INVESTIGATION, WOODS HIRED A FORMER SECURITY POLICEMAN, DONALD CARD, TO MAKE AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY. CARD SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD WOODS AND THE PRESS HE DISCOVERED SECURITY POLICE INTERCEPTED ALL MAIL TO WOODS HOME, INCLUDING T-SHIRT PACKAGE, AND HAD PROBABLY IMPREGNATED SHIRT WITH ACID. ACCORDING TO WOODS' PUBLIC STATEMENT AFTER FLEEING S.A., THE INCIDENT WAS ONE CAUSE OF HIS FLIGHT SINCE THEREAFTER HE FELT HE COULD NOT RELY ON POLICE FOR PROTECTION SINCE THEY, HE IMPLIED, HAD VENDETTA
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AGAINST HIM. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, THE OFFICIAL POLICE INVESTIGATION FOUND THE PACKAGE HAD NOT BEEN TAMPERED WITH FROM TIME IT WAS ORIGINALLY MAILED IN PIETERMARITZBURG.

2. HOLMES TOLD PRESS HE WAS ASTOUNDED BY CHARGES AND PLANS TO CONDUCT OWN DEFENSE IN TRIAL SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 25.
FARBER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL DISORDERS, EDITORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DURBAN00025
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780020-0371
Format: TEL
From: DURBAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780168/aaaacfjb.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2333fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MASERU 2134
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3781663
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRINTER WHO SENT \"ACID T-SHIRTS\" TO DONALD WOODS CHARGED
TAGS: PINT, SF, (WOODS, DONALD)
To: STATE PRETORIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2333fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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